

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) An input device according to claim + 41, wherein said interface does not transpose the widthwise position of said contact and said data signal does not indicate the widthwise position of said contact.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) An input device according to claim + 41, wherein said substantially constant width is approximately the width of a human finger.
5. (Original) An input device according to claim 4, wherein said input device further comprises a number of keys or buttons and wherein said data signal also indicates the selection of one or more of said keys or buttons.
6. (Original) An input device according to claim 5, wherein said number of keys or buttons is four and wherein said keys or buttons are located on said linear touch input device in a position so as to be operable by the fingers of a hand while said strip of touch sensitive material is simultaneously touched by the thumb of the hand.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A keyboard according to claim 7 36, wherein said interface does not transpose the widthwise position of said contact and said data signal does not indicate the widthwise position of said contact.

9. (Currently Amended) A keyboard according to claim 7 36, wherein said interface also transposes the pressure of said contact and said data signal also indicates the pressure of said contact.

10. (Currently Amended) A keyboard according to claim 7 36, wherein said substantially constant width is approximately the width of a human finger.

11. (Original) A keyboard according to claim 10, wherein said linear touch input device further comprises a number of touch keys or buttons and wherein said data signal also indicates the selection of one or more of said touch keys or buttons.

12. (Original) A keyboard according to claim 11, wherein said keys or buttons and said strip of touch sensitive material are located on said linear touch input device in a position so as to be operable by the fingers of a hand while said strip of touch sensitive material is simultaneously touched by the thumb of the hand.

13. (Previously presented) A keyboard according to claim 12, wherein said strip of touch sensitive material is located on the top face of said housing and said touch keys or buttons are located on at least one of said left edge and said right edge of said housing.

14. (Previously presented) A keyboard according to claim 12, wherein said strip of touch sensitive material is located on the top face of said housing and said touch keys or buttons are located on the bottom face of said housing.

15. (Original) A keyboard according to claim 12, wherein said strip of touch sensitive material is substantially straight.

16. (Original) A keyboard according to claim 12, wherein said strip of touch sensitive material is substantially arc shaped.

17-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim ~~23~~ 27, wherein said processor controls scrolling of said display in accordance with said input data signal.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:
a computer bus;

a linear touch input device for providing user controlled inputs to said bus, said linear touch input device comprising:

a strip of touch sensitive material, said strip having a substantially constant width and a length which is at least twice said width, and

an interface, connecting said strip to said computer bus and responsive to human contact with said strip in order to transpose the position of said contact into an input data signal indicating the position of said contact along the length of said strip and to output said data signal to said computer bus;

a processor configured to receive the input data signal from said linear touch input device and process information in accordance with said input data signal; and

a keyboard having a plurality of alphanumeric keys and outputting a keyboard signal indicating the selection of said alphanumeric keys by a user, said linear touch input device being integrated with said keyboard, and said processor performs processing of display data in response to said keyboard signal and said input data signal from said linear touch input device,

~~A computer system according to claim 22,~~ wherein said ~~image~~ display data represents a text document and said computer system performs processing of said text document in accordance with said keyboard signal and display of said text document in accordance with said input data signal from said linear touch input device.

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a computer bus;

a linear touch input device for providing user controlled inputs to said bus, said linear touch input device comprising:

a strip of touch sensitive material, said strip having a substantially constant width and a length which is at least twice said width, and

an interface, connecting said strip to said computer bus and responsive to human contact with said strip in order to transpose the position of said contact into an input data signal indicating the position of said contact along the length of said strip and to output said data signal to said computer bus; and

a processor configured to receive the input data signal from said linear touch input device and process information in accordance with said input data signal;

a keyboard having a plurality of alphanumeric keys and outputting a keyboard signal indicating the selection of said alphanumeric keys by a user, said linear touch input device being integrated with said keyboard, and said processor performs processing of display data in response to said keyboard signal and said input data signal from said linear touch input device;

a display arranged to display said display data under the control of said processor and said processor controls said display data in accordance with said input data signal; and

a pointing device and wherein said processor controls said display data in accordance with said input data signal from said linear touch input device and a signal from said pointing device,

~~A computer system according to claim 26,~~ wherein said pointing device comprises a two-dimensional pointing device and said processor processes the signal from said two-dimensional

pointing device with said input data signal from said linear touch input device under the control of programming instructions to generate a three-dimensional input signal.

28. (Currently Amended) A computer system according to claim ~~22~~ 25, wherein said computer system further comprises a network and one or more computers, each containing said linear touch input device, connected to said network.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for implementing a method for providing user controlled inputs to a computer comprising:

a computer readable memory medium; and

a computer program including:

a routine for, in response to human contact of a strip of touch sensitive material by hand, converting the position of said contact into a data signal indicating the position of said contact along the length of said strip; and

a routine for outputting said data signal to a bus of said computer;

wherein said computer comprises a keyboard having a plurality of alphanumeric keys and outputting a keyboard signal indicating the selection of said alphanumeric keys by a user, said strip being integrated with said keyboard; said processor performs processing of display data in accordance with said keyboard signal and said input data signal from said strip, said computer program is arranged to control the display of an image in accordance with said input data signal;

said computer program controls scrolling of said display in accordance with said input data signal;

~~A computer program product according to claim 31, wherein~~ said computer comprises a keyboard having a plurality of alphanumeric keys and outputting a keyboard signal indicating the selection of said alphanumeric keys by a user[[,]];

said strip of touch sensitive material is integrated with said keyboard[[,]]; and

said computer program performs processing of a text document in accordance with said keyboard signal and to control a display of said text document in accordance with said input data signal.

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for implementing a method for providing user controlled inputs to a computer comprising:

a computer readable memory medium; and

a computer program including:

a routine for, in response to human contact of a strip of touch sensitive material by hand, converting the position of said contact into a data signal indicating the position of said contact along the length of said strip; and

a routine for outputting said data signal to a bus of said computer;

wherein said computer comprises a keyboard having a plurality of alphanumeric keys and outputting a keyboard signal indicating the selection of said alphanumeric keys by a user, said strip being integrated with said keyboard; and said processor performs processing of display data in accordance with said keyboard signal and said input data signal from said strip;

said computer program is arranged to control the display of an image in accordance with said input data signal;

said computer comprises a pointing device; said computer program controls said image in accordance with said input data signal and a signal from said pointing device;

~~A computer system according to claim 33, wherein~~ said pointing device comprises a two-dimensional pointing device; and said computer program includes a routine for processing the signal from said two-dimensional pointing device with said input data signal to generate a three-dimensional input signal.

35. (Currently Amended) A keyboard according to claim 7 36, wherein said linear touch sensitive material has a longitudinal direction and said longitudinal direction is substantially parallel to at least one said left and right edges.

36. (Currently Amended) A keyboard having an integrated touch input device, said keyboard comprising;
a housing supporting a plurality of keys, said housing having a top face, a bottom face, and left and right edges; and
a first linear touch input device for providing user controlled inputs, said linear touch input device located adjacent to at least one of said left and right edges on said top face and comprising;
a strip of touch sensitive material, said strip having a substantially constant width and a length which is at least twice said width;
an interface, connecting said strip to a computer and responsive to human contact with said strip in order to transpose the position of said contact into a data signal indicating the position of said contact along the length of said strip and to output said data signal; and
a second linear touch input device;
wherein said first linear input device is located at or near said left edge of the keyboard;
said second linear touch input device is located at or near said right edge of the keyboard; and
~~A keyboard according to claim 17 wherein~~ said second linear touch input device used in conjunction with said first linear touch input device for generating a two-dimensional input signal.

37. (Previously Presented) A keyboard according to claim 11, wherein selection of said touch keys or buttons modifies a granularity of movement controlled by said strip of touch sensitive material.

37. (Previously Presented) A keyboard according to claim 11, wherein selection of said touch keys or buttons modifies a granularity of movement controlled by said strip of touch sensitive material.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Currently Amended) An input device according to claim ~~38~~ 41 wherein said first and second strips of touch sensitive material in combination control two-dimensional input.

40. (Currently Amended) An input device for providing user controlled inputs, comprising:
a first strip of touch-sensitive material sensitive to a range of pressure values, said first strip having a substantially constant width and a length which is at least twice said width;
an interface, connecting said first strip to a computer and responsive to human contact with said first strip in order to transpose the position and pressure value of said contact into a data signal and to output said data signal; and
a second strip of touch sensitive material, wherein said first and second strips of touch sensitive material control input in one dimension;

~~An input device according to claim 38~~ wherein one of said first and second touch sensitive input strips controls granularity of the other of said first and second touch sensitive input strips.

41. (Currently Amended) An input device for providing user controlled inputs,
comprising:
a first strip of touch-sensitive material sensitive to a range of pressure values, said first
strip having a substantially constant width and a length which is at least twice said width;
an interface, connecting said first strip to a computer and responsive to human contact
with said first strip in order to transpose the position and pressure value of said contact into a
data signal and to output said data signal;
a second strip of touch sensitive material, wherein said first and second strips of touch
sensitive material control input in one dimension; and

~~An input device according to claim 38 further comprising~~ at least one key that when
activated simultaneous to activation of either touch sensitive input strip controls granularity of
input.

42. (Currently Amended) An input device according to claim 38 41 further comprising at
least one key that when activated simultaneous to activation of said first touch sensitive input
strip controls selection of a function altered in one dimension by said first touch sensitive input
strip.